

**From:** owltree  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/17/02 10:04pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I use Microsoft products. A lot of them. I use the software, the operating systems, everything. There is nothing better on the market, which is why I was very irritated with the antitrust case brought against Microsoft. Antitrust laws are brought because of a business' monopolistic practices. There were no such practices with Microsoft. I choose Microsoft because they work. Period. Microsoft's competitors whine about Microsoft, then make a better mousetrap. Mr. Bill Gates worked long and hard to make his company what it is today. He did so by providing consumers what they needed: quality,affordable products. Now he is being persecuted for it.

Now, a settlement has finally been reached. And I want to urge you to give your approval to this agreement. We don't need to nitpick over what should be the final decision. Why else are there courts? If we continue to revisit these decisions, it will only undermine the legitimacy of this and future decisions.

And from what I understand, Microsoft has more than done its share to end this lawsuit. Microsoft has agreed to a technical committee to monitor future adherence. It will even share code or programming that Windows uses to communicate with other programs.

It is time to go forward. Give your support to this agreement

Sincerely,

Patricia Keator

PS) A copy of this letter is being sent to you in the US mail.